IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for estimating visceral fat area of a subject comprising the steps of

acquiring predetermined biological data of the subject including at least values ~~each~~ indicating height and fat mass of the subject, and

estimating a value indicating visceral fat area of the subject based on the acquired biological data,

wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using the product of an ~~the~~ Xth power of the height value and an ~~the~~ Yth power of the fat mass value, where each of ~~the~~ X and ~~the~~ Y is ~~expresses~~ a number other than ~~excluding~~ zero.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using a parameter expressed as FM/Ht^2, where ~~the~~ Ht is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating height and ~~the~~ FM is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating fat mass.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using a parameter expressed as Ht^2/FM, where ~~the~~ Ht is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating height and ~~the~~ FM is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating fat mass.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein a value indicating age of the subject is further acquired in the step of acquiring the biological data and wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using an equation (1) as follows: ~~as expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C11*FM/Ht^2 + C12*Age + C13 \qquad (1)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, and ~~the~~ C11, C12 and C13 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein a value indicating age of the subject is further acquired in the step of acquiring the biological data and wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using an equation (2) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C21*Ht^2/FM + C22*Age + C23 \quad (2)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, and ~~the~~ C21, C22 and C23 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein values ~~each~~ indicating age and weight of the subject are further acquired in the step of acquiring the biological data and wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using an equation (3) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C31*FM/Ht^2 + C32*Age + C33*Wt/Ht^2 + C34 \quad (3)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ Wt <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating weight, and ~~the~~ C31, C32, C33 and C34 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein values ~~each~~ indicating age and weight of the subject are further acquired in the step of acquiring the biological data and wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using an equation (4) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C41*Ht^2/FM + C42*Age + C43*Wt/Ht^2 + C44 \quad (4)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ Wt <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating weight, and ~~the~~ C41, C42, C43 and C44 <u>as constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein values ~~each~~ indicating age and body fat percentage of the subject are further acquired in the step of acquiring the biological data and wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using an equation (5) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C51*FM/Ht^2 + C52*Age + C53*\%FAT + C54 \qquad (5)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ %FAT <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating body fat percentage, and ~~the~~ C51, C52, C53 and C54 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein values ~~each~~ indicating age and body fat percentage of the subject are further acquired in the step of acquiring the biological data and wherein the estimation of the value indicating visceral fat area is performed by using an equation (6) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C61*Ht^2/FM + C62*Age + C63*\%FAT + C64 \qquad (6)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ %FAT <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating body fat percentage, and ~~the~~ C61, C62, C63 and C64 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claim 1 to 9, wherein the value indicating fat mass of the subject is acquired by using <u>a</u> ~~the~~ Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis ~~in the step of acquiring the biological data~~.

11.   (Currently Amended) A system for estimating visceral fat area of

a subject comprising a data acquiring component for acquiring predetermined biological

data of the subject including at least values ~~each~~ indicating height and fat mass of the subject,

and

a data processing component for estimating a value indicating visceral fat area of the

subject based on the acquired biological data,

wherein the data processing component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by

using the product of an ~~the~~ Xth power of the height value and a ~~the~~ Yth power of the fat mass

value, where each of ~~the~~ X and ~~the~~ Y is ~~expresses~~ a number other than ~~excluding~~ zero.

12.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the data processing

component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using a parameter expressed as

FM/Ht^2, where ~~the~~ Ht is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating height and ~~the~~ FM is ~~expresses~~ the value

indicating fat mass.

13.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the data processing

component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using a parameter expressed as

Ht^2/FM, where ~~the~~ Ht is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating height and ~~the~~ FM is ~~expresses~~ the value

indicating fat mass.

14.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the data acquiring

component further acquires a value indicating age of the subject and wherein the data processing

component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using an equation (1) as follows: ~~as~~

~~expressed below,~~

$$VFA = C11*FM/Ht^2 + C12*Age + C13 \quad (1)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, and ~~the~~ C11, C12 and C13 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

15.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the data acquiring component further acquires a value indicating age of the subject and wherein the data processing component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using an equation (2) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below,~~

. $VFA = C21*Ht^2/FM + C22*Age + C23$ (2)

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, and ~~the~~ C21, C22 and C23 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

16.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the data acquiring component further acquires values ~~each~~ indicating age and weight of the subject and wherein the data processing component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using an equation (3) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below~~,

$VFA = C31*FM/Ht^2 + C32*Age + C33*Wt/Ht^2 + C34$ (3)

where ~~the~~ VFA <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ Wt <u>is</u> ~~expresses~~ the value indicating weight, and ~~the~~ C31, C32, C33 and C34 <u>are constants</u> ~~each expresses constant~~.

17.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the data acquiring component further acquires values ~~each~~ indicating age and weight of the subject and wherein the data processing component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using an equation (4) <u>as follows:</u> ~~as expressed below~~,

$VFA = C41*Ht^2/FM + C42*Age + C43*Wt/Ht^2 + C44$ (4)

where ~~the~~ VFA is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ Wt is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating weight, and ~~the~~ C41, C42, C43 and C44 are constants ~~each expresses constant~~.

18.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the data acquiring component further acquires values ~~each~~ indicating age and body fat percentage of the subject and wherein the data processing component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using an equation (5) as follows: ~~as expressed below~~,

$$VFA = C51*FM/Ht^2 + C52*Age + C53*\%FAT + C54 \qquad (5)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ %FAT is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating body fat percentage, and ~~the~~ C51, C52, C53 and C54 are constants ~~each expresses constant~~.

19.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the data acquiring component further acquires values ~~each~~ indicating age and body fat percentage of the subject and wherein the data processing component estimates the value indicating visceral fat area by using an equation (6) as follows: ~~as expressed below~~,

$$VFA = C61*Ht^2/FM + C62*Age + C63*\%FAT + C64 \qquad (6)$$

where ~~the~~ VFA is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating visceral fat mass, ~~the~~ Age is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating age, ~~the~~ %FAT is ~~expresses~~ the value indicating body fat percentage, and ~~the~~ C61, C62, C63 and C64 are constants ~~each expresses constant~~.

20.   (Currently Amended) The system of any one of claim 1 to 9, wherein the value indicating fat mass of the subject is acquired by the data acquiring component based on a ~~the~~ Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis.